

# CONNECTED

January 2004



## Happy New Year

FROM ALL YOUR FRIENDS AT THE

## Marietta Board of Lights and Water



Everyone here at the Marietta Board of Lights and Water wishes you a safe, happy, and prosperous New Year.

Each individual within Marietta Power, Marietta Water, and the entire board struc-

ture takes great pride in our exceptional track record of serving our community. We look forward to continuing to provide you with the highest level of service in 2004 and beyond. ⚡

### Water, Sewer Rates Increase

Effective January 1, 2004 the Marietta Board of Lights and Water (BLW) will implement a three-cent per thousand gallons increase for water and a 12-cent per thousand gallons increase in wastewater rates.

These are pass through increases in wholesale costs from the Cobb County — Marietta Water Authority and Cobb County Water System, respectively. The increases are due to increasing wholesale costs and there is no additional increase on behalf of the BLW. ⚡



## A PRE-SPRING LEAK ROUNDUP COULD LOWER YOUR WATER BILL

While you're waiting for spring to arrive, why not take time to check your home for leaks that could be costing you money? After all, an extra drop of water here and there can add up to unnecessary charges on your water bill.

Start with your water faucets. Repair or replace any that keep dripping after you turn them off. Most hardware and home improvement stores stock a full line of parts and replacements. If possible, include water-saving devices in your repair plans. New faucet aerators significantly reduce water use compared with older models. Other water-saving devices include low-flow showerheads, metering faucets that deliver a measured quantity of water, or spring-loaded faucets that shut off automatically after use.

Next, check your toilets for leaks. Just put a drop of food coloring in the tank and, if the color appears in the bowl within 10 minutes, you'll need to find and repair a leak. If you have to install a whole new toilet anytime soon, you should also consider an ultra-low flush model.

Other ways you can save water include:

- ✓ Taking Shorter Showers
- ✓ Wash Dishes Wisely
- ✓ Turn off the water while brushing teeth or shaving.

For more information on saving water, please contact Marietta Water at (770) 794-5230. ⚡



# Arbor Day Reminds Us Why Trees Are So Important

We rely on trees for shade in the dog days of summer, for materials to build our homes, and to enrich our lives in many other ways. For that reason, your friends with the Marietta Board of Lights and Water strongly encourage you to join your fellow Georgians in planting a tree to celebrate Arbor Day on Friday, Feb. 20.

The idea of holding the first Arbor Day observance sprang to life in the fertile soil of Nebraska, where J. Sterling Morton and his wife began planting trees as soon as they moved to the territory in 1854. When he became editor of Nebraska's first newspaper, Morton often wrote stories about the importance of trees. Out on the frontier in those days, settlers needed trees for fuel, as well as for building materials and shade from the hot sun. Trees also helped hold topsoil in place by serving as windbreaks.

Morton went public with his idea for a tree-planting holiday on Jan. 4, 1872, at a meeting of the Nebraska Board of Agriculture. Nebraska officials eventually declared Arbor Day as a legal holiday and selected Morton's birthday, April 22, as the date for its permanent observance. As other states began adopting the tradition, most settled on the last Friday in April as the best time to observe Arbor Day.

Georgia, like several other states, took a different approach, however. The Peach State chose a date more suitable for tree planting in our area. Since trees planted between November and mid-March have the best chance to become well established before the hot Georgia summer arrives, this state celebrates Arbor Day on the third Friday in February.

For more information on Arbor Day, please visit the National Arbor Day Foundation web site at [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org). ⚡

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## Calendar of Events

### **Now through January 5, 2004**

*Icing On The Cake: 150 Years Of Accessories And Undergarments*  
Marietta Museum of History  
Call 770-528-0431 for information.

### **Jan. 21 - Feb. 29, 2004**

*Side Man*  
by Warren Leight  
Theatre in the Square  
Call 770-422-8369  
for more information

### **January 24, 2004**

*Love The Loop*  
9 a.m.  
Public Works Complex  
750 North Marietta Parkway  
Volunteer groups are appreciated in this clean-up effort on and around the Marietta Parkway.  
Call Keep Marietta Beautiful at 770-794-5606 for more information.

### **February 20, 2004**

*Arbor Day*

### **March 10 - April 18, 2004**

*A Raisin In The Sun*  
by Lorraine Hansberry  
Theatre in the Square  
Call 770-422-8369  
for more information

### **April 25, 2004**

*Taste of Marietta*  
Marietta Square

### **May 5 - June 13, 2004**

*Keep On The Sunny Side*  
by Douglas Pote  
Theatre in the Square  
Call 770-422-8369  
for more information